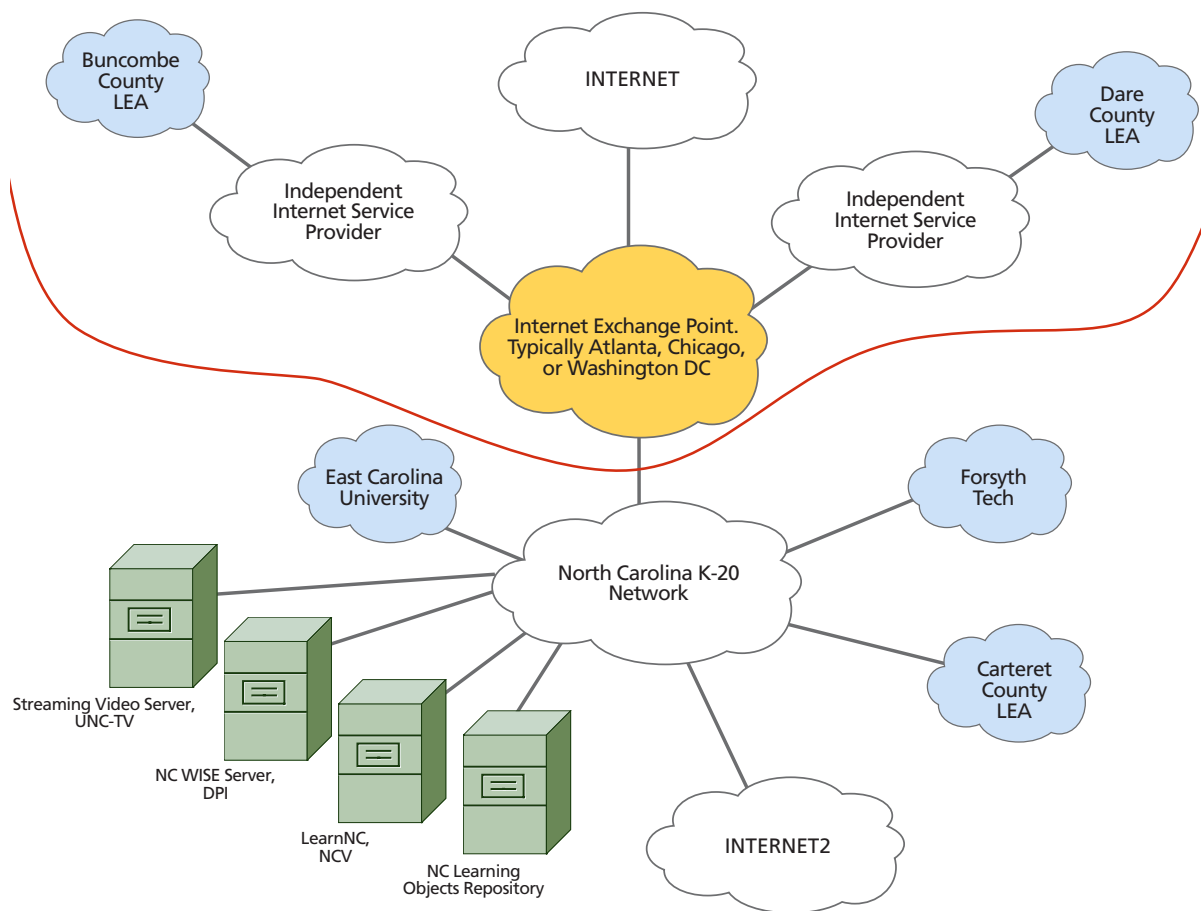educational institutions is located somewhere else and outside the control of its stake-holders, namely its students, faculty, and citizens. The distance between these systems and the North Carolina Education Network contributes to poorer performance from these schools to the resources accessed directly through this network, leading inefficiencies and a loss of benefits for users. Because of NCREN's unique positioning as a connector to the Abilene network (Internet2), which is a nationwide research and education network, those sites not directly connected to the Education Network are denied access to the many education-only services that are available through Internet2.

Current K-12 Network Configuration

The bottom half of the above drawing illustrates those elements that are already directly connected to the North Carolina Education Network. These institutions are able to access important educational applications located within North Carolina, including the Learn-NC server at UNC-CH, the NC WISE Server at DPI, the NC Learning Objects Repository, and the newly established NC Virtual High School.